

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Bohdan Zajac

Serial No.: Filed Herewith (CIP of Serial No. 09/508,126 filed March 6, 2000)

Filed: November 26, 2001

Title: "METHOD FOR PROTECTING PAINT ON ARTICLE, COMPOSITION USEFUL THEREFOR, AND METHOD FOR MAKING COMPOSITION"

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231



25686  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed as a Continuing Application based upon parent application USSN 09/508,126 filed March 6, 2000. Applicant respectfully requests an early allowance of claims 15-21 for the reasons discussed below.

Please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" Label Number: ET096801249US

Date of Deposit: November 26, 2001

I hereby certify that the following attached papers and/or fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, with sufficient postage, on the date indicated above and is addressed to "Box PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231".

Nancy L. Craft

Name

Signature

Please cancel claims 1 through 14 and add the following clean version of new claims 15 through 21:

IN THE CLAIMS:

15. (New) A method for protecting a coating of paint on an article, including an automobile body, from scratches, the method comprising coating onto the paint a protective composition which is a water-washable combination of acrylic resins and a caustic, wherein the composition forms a water-washable coating and is removed from the article by washing with water, the method further comprising removing the water-washable coating by rinsing with water.

16. (New) A coating composition for protecting a coating of paint, the composition comprising:

from about 5.5 to about 12 weight percent of at least one film-forming acrylic resin;

from about 5 to about 12 weight percent of a combination acrylic resin of a viscosity controller and a plasticizer;

from about 1 to about 3 weight percent of a caustic selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof so that the composition has a pH of from about 7.5 to about 9.0; and

from about 73 to about 88.5 weight percent water, all weight percents being based on the total weight of the composition,

whereby the resultant composition has an acid number between about 60 and about 110, and the combination of the resins with the caustic results in a water-washable coating composition that is removed by rinsing with water.

17. (New) The coating composition of claim 16, wherein said viscosity controller is present in an amount which controls the viscosity of the composition in the range of from about 100 to about 500 centipoise.

18. (New) The coating composition of claim 16, further comprising:  
from about 2 to about 5 weight percent of plasticizer for the acrylic resins;  
from about 0.25 to about 1 weight percent of a surface wetting agent;  
a viscosity controller in an amount which controls the viscosity of the  
composition in the range of from about 100 to about 500 centipoise; and  
from about 67 to about 86.5 weight percent water, all weight percents being  
based on the total weight of the composition,  
whereby the resultant composition has an acid number between about 60  
and about 110, and the combination of the resins with the caustic results in a water-washable  
coating composition that is removed by rinsing with water.

19. (New) A coating composition for protecting a coating of paint, the  
composition comprising:  
from about 4 to about 8 weight percent of a first film-forming acrylic resin  
having an average molecular weight of from about 200,000 to about 260,000;  
from about 5 to about 7 weight percent of a second acrylic resin having a  
weight average molecular weight of from about 2,000 to about 10,000;  
from about 1 to about 3 weight percent of a caustic selected from the group  
consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof so that the composition  
has a pH of from about 7.5 to about 9.0;  
a viscosity controller in an amount which controls the viscosity of the  
composition in the range of from about 100 to about 500 centipoise; and  
from about 82 to about 90 weight percent water, all weight percents being  
based on the total weight of the composition,  
whereby the resultant composition has an acid number between about 60  
and about 110, and the combination of the resins with the caustic results in a water-washable  
coating composition that is removed by rinsing with water.

20. (New) A coating composition for temporarily protecting a coating of paint on an article, including an automobile body, the composition comprising:

from about 1.5 to about 4 weight percent of a first film-forming acrylic resin having a weight average molecular weight of from about 235,000 to about 285,000;

from about 1 to about 3 weight percent of a caustic selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof; and

from about 93 to about 97.5 weight percent water, all weight percents being based on the total weight of the composition,

whereby the resultant composition has an acid number between about 60 and about 110, and the combination of the resins with the caustic results in a water-washable coating composition that is removed by rinsing with water.

21. (New) A coating composition for temporarily protecting a coating of paint on an article, including an automobile body, the composition comprising:

from about 4 to about 8 weight percent of a first film-forming acrylic resin having a weight average molecular weight of from about 175,000 to about 225,000;

from about 1 to about 3 weight percent of a caustic selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, and the mixtures thereof; and

from about 89 to about 95 weight percent water, all weight percents being based on the total weight of the composition,

whereby the resultant composition has an acid number between about 60 and about 110, and the combination of the resins with the caustic results in a water-washable coating composition that is removed by rinsing with water.

***REMARKS***

Pursuant to the requirement of 37 CFR 1.121(b), and as stated above, please substitute and replace all the claim sheets, as amended and as originally filed, with the above clean amended set of claims.

For the reasons above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-21 are now in condition for allowance, and requests that the Examiner give such an allowance.

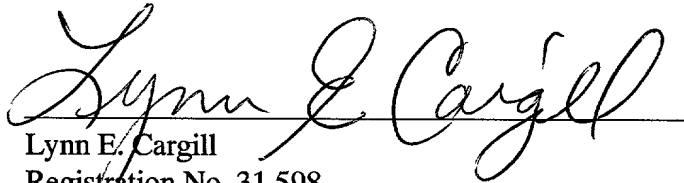
***Final Comments***

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for her kind consideration, and hopes, that by these new claims, the subject matter of the present invention is clearly stated, such that a review of the present invention will give solid support for an allowance. Consequently, Applicant requests consideration for the instant Application.

If the Examiner feels that the prosecution of this Application can be expedited by conversation, she is courteously requested to place a telephone call to Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CARGILL & ASSOCIATES



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Date: November 26, 2001